

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0051128-07-1

Permittee: BelGioioso Cheese Inc, 4200 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54311

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: BelGioioso Cheese Inc, 5850 County Road NN, Denmark, WI

Receiving Water and Location: unnamed tributary of the Devils River in the West Twin River Watershed (TK01) and groundwater of various watersheds via landspreading in Brown, Kewaunee and Manitowoc Counties

Brief Facility Description: BelGioioso Cheese Inc. is an Italian cheese processor. The BelGioioso Cheese Inc. Denmark wastewater treatment plant treats wastewater from the BelGioioso Glenmore, Denmark, and New Denmark production facilities. Noncontact cooling water (NCCW) from the Glenmore and Denmark facilities are also discharged under the BelGioioso Cheese Inc. Denmark permit. NCCW from New Denmark is covered under the NCCW general permit. Cheese produced at this facility includes mascarpone, mozzarella, and provolone cheeses. BelGioioso brings in approximately 3.2 million pounds of milk per day. Whey produced in the cheese making process is hauled to another BelGioioso facility for treatment and disposal. Wastewater enters a baffled equalization tank and then onto a strainer. Pretreatment of the wastewater continues with a dissolved air flotation (DAF) unit and then flows into an anoxic selector tank. After the selector tank wastewater flows to an aeration basin and then onto a screen filter prior to the membrane filter. Solids produced at the membrane filter can be used as return activated sludge (RAS) or sent as waste activated sludge (WAS) to the DAF unit followed by the sludge tank. RAS may be sent to the aeration basin or the anoxic selector tank. NCCW is combined with the wastewater discharge prior to the outfall to the receiving water.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sarah Donoughe, DNR, 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54313-6727, (920) 366-6076, Sarah.Donoughe@Wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Laura Gerold, DNR, 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54313-6727, (920) 662-5426, Laura.Gerold@Wisconsin.gov

Proposed Modification: The permit is being modified to remove total residual chlorine effluent monitoring and limits which were set to become effective per the compliance schedule that has also been removed. Residual chlorine is no longer found in the effluent due to process changes which have eliminated it.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be modified.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (920) 662-5148 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Green Bay Press-Gazette

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box 23430, Green Bay, WI 54305-3430

Date Notice Issued: December 22, 2021

STREAMLINED PUBLIC NOTICE VERSION FOR NEWSPAPER

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FOR THE COMPLETE PUBLIC NOTICE AND DETAILS GO TO THE WEB LINK:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>

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The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule an informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Stats. Information on requesting a hearing is at the above web link.

Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be reviewed on the internet at the above web link or may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office during office hours. Information on this permit may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.